

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF COMMERCIAL SPENT FUEL AND COMMERCIAL AND DEFENSE HIGH-LEVEL NUCLEAR WASTE

Directions: Using the completed map, the activity introduction, and information about *metric tons* of spent fuel for other high-level waste from the tables in the reading lesson, answer the questions below.

1. What is commercial waste? (*Waste generated by private enterprise, not government*)

What is defense high-level radioactive waste? (*Waste that results from the reprocessing of specially designed and irradiated fuel to obtain materials for nuclear weapons.*)

2. In how many States was commercial spent fuel being stored in 1993? (35)
3. Was spent fuel stored in the State you live in during 1993? _____
4. If yes, how many metric tons? _____
5. If not, do you border a State that does? (Yes) (Except for AK and HI)
6. In which three States was defense high-level nuclear waste stored in 1991? (Use State abbreviations.) (ID, SC, WA)
7. In which State was commercial high-level waste (reprocessed spent fuel) other than spent fuel stored in 1993? (NY)
8. Which four States had the largest accumulations (in *metric tons*) of spent fuel in 1993? (Use State abbreviations.) (IL, PA, NY, SC)
Which five States are projected to have the largest accumulations (in *metric tons*) by 2003? (Use State abbreviations.) (IL, PA, NC, SC, NY)
9. Commercial spent fuel and other high-level nuclear waste were not stored in 1993 and are not projected to be stored by the year 2003 in the following 15 States: (Use State abbreviations.)
(AK, DE, HI, IN, KY, MT, ND, NM, NV, OK, RI, SD, UT, WY, WV)

10. In your opinion, what is the significance of the information in the map and in the tables?
(Commercial spent fuel or defense high-level waste is present in 35 States and inventories of spent fuel are projected to increase greatly by 2000. The problem of safe permanent disposal is a national challenge.)
